

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LAGOS 01397 121554Z

67

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

/060 W

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R 121500Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO AMEMBASSY COTONOU

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7956

CONFIDENTIAL LAGOS 1397

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, DH, NI

SUBJECT: NIGERIA AND DAHOMEY

REF: CHESSES-CROSBY LETTER OF FEBRUARY 1

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF FEBRUARY 12, SENIOR MEA
OFFICIAL CONFIRMED JANUARY 31 VISIT TO COTONOU BY NIGERIAN
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMISSIONER ARIKPO AND ARMY CHIEF OF
STAFF GENERAL EJOOR. ACCORDING SOURCE, THEY MADE VISIT
AT REQUEST OF KEREKOU, WHO HAD SENT SPECIAL ENVOY TO LAGOS
TO URGE NIGERIAN HELP IN RECONCILING VARIOUS FACTIONS OF
DAHOMEAN ARMED FORCES. SOURCE ADDED THAT DAHOMEAN FONMIN
PAID RETURN VISIT TO LAGOS EARLY THIS WEEK TO CONTINUE
EXCHANGES ON THIS SUBJECT, BUT GAVE NO INDICATION WHAT
RESULTS OF EITHER MISSION HAD BEEN.

2. INTERESTINGLY, THERE HAS BEEN NO PUBLIC MENTION IN
NIGERIA OF THESE VISITS OR OF FMG ROLE IN DAHOMEY. SOURCE
EXPLAINED SILENCE HERE AS RESULT FMG DESIRE AVOID PUBLICIZING
ACTIVITIES WHICH MIGHT BE CONSTRUED ELSEWHERE AS UNWARRANTED
INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF NEIGHBOR, EVEN THOUGH
BOTH NIGERIA AND DAHOMEY KNOW PERFECTLY WELL THAT ACTIONS
TAKEN IN PRESENT CASE WERE STRICTLY IN RESPONSE TO LATTER'S
REQUEST.

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Message Attributes

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